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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AF-06 ARA-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00

EA-06 EUR-12 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 IO-10 L-03 NASA-01

NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01

OES-03 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 /118 W

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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TAGS: CCD, PARM

SUBJECT: CCD-CONSULTATIONS ON U.S. INITIATIVE ON MILITARY EXPENDITURE
STUDY

SUMMARY. AS INSTRUCTED IN CLEARED POSITION PAPER ON
MILITARY EXPENDITURE STUDY INITIATIVE, AMB. MARTIN ON
JULY 15 SEPARATELY INFORMED WESTERN CCD GROUP AND SOVIETS
OF PLANNED U.S. INITIATIVE CALLING FOR CCD STUDY OF
TECHNICAL AND CONCEPTUAL ISSUES RAISED IN 1974 UN
EXPERTS REPORT ON REDUCTION OF MILITARY BUDGETS.
INITIAL REACTIONS FROM WESTERN REPS WERE FAVORABLE.
SOVIET REPS RAISED QUESTIONS AND PROMISED TO SEEK

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INSTRUCTIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. SPEAKING TO WESTERN GROUP (CANADA, FRG, ITALY, JAPAN, NETHERLANDS, UK) MARTIN SAID THAT 1974 EXPERTS' REPORT ON REDUCTION OF MILITARY BUDGETS (ROB) PROVIDED BASIS FOR FURTHER STUDY OF TECHNICAL ISSUES INVOLVED IN MILITARY EXPENDITURE COMPARISONS. HE THEN DESCRIBED U.S. INITIATIVE FULLY, ADDING THAT U.S. WOULD NOT PROPOSE SPECIFIC COURSE OF ACTION BUT POSSIBILITIES INCLUDED INFORMAL MEETINGS WITH EXPERTS OR EXPERTS' GROUP UNDER CCD AUSPICES. LATTER WOULD REQUIRE CONSENSUS OF COMMITTEE.

2. DI BERNARDO (ITALY) REQUESTED BRIEF AIDE MEMOIRE TO HELP REPORT TO CAPITALS, SAYING HE HOPED TO SUPPORT IDEA IN AUGUST STATEMENT. MARTIN AGREED TO PROVIDE SHORT OUTLINE OF PROPOSAL. SCHLAICH (FRG) EXPRESSED APPROVAL IF IDEA, AND ASKED IF U.S. WOULD ALTER PLAN IF SOVIETS OPPOSES IT. MARTIN SAID WE WOULD PROCEED ANYWAY, ALTHOUGH SOVIET ATTITUDE WOULD AFFECT PROCDURAL POSSIBILITIES. SCHLAICH SAID THAT IN VIEW OF DIFFICULTIES IN SETTING UP EXPERTS'S STUDY, INFORMAL EXPERTS' MEETINGS MIGHT BE PREFERABLE COURSE. MEERBURG (NETHERLANDS) TOLD DELOFF INITIATIVE SEEMED GOOD ONE AND EXPERTS' STUDY WOULD BE OPTIMUM APPROACH.

3. AT CO-CHAIRMAN'S MEETING SAME DAY MARTIN OUTLINED U.S. INITIATIVE TO ROSCHIN AND NAZARKIN (USSR). MARTIN SAID U.S. BELIEVED FURTHER WORK SHOULD BE DONE ALONG LINES SET FORTH IN 1974 EXPERTS' REPORT ON REDUCTION OF MILITARY BUDGETS AND WE THEREFORE PLANNED TO MAKE PROPOSAL AT JULY 24 MEETING OF CCD.

4. MARTIN EMPHASIZED THAT U.S. APPROACH WOULD NOT REQUIRE ANY COUNTRY TO PROVIDE STATISTICS ABOUT ITS MILITARY EXPENDITURES. HE ALSO EMPHASIZED THAT U..S. IS NOT PREPARED AT THIS STAGE TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE AGREEMENT ON MILITARY EXPENDITURE LIMITATION (MEL), PERCENTAGES OF POSSIBLE REDUCTIONS, OR QUESTIONS ABOUT DISTRIBUTION OF MONEY THAT MIGHT BE SAVED THROUGH REDUCTIONS. IN U.S. VIEW, DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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AGREEMENTS IN THIS AREA WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE UNTIL CONCEPTUAL AND TECHNICAL PROBLEMS WERE SOLVED, WE COULD BE CONFIDENT THAT SECURITY OF PARTIES TO SUCH AGREEMENT WOULD NOT BE AFFECTED, AND COMPLIANCE COULD BE ADEQUATELY VERIFIED. WE WOULD SUGGEST, HOWEVER, THAT EXPERTS, EITHER IN INFORMAL MEETINGS OF CCD OR AS GROUP UNDER CCD AUSPICES, STUDY THE FOLLOWING FOUR QUESTIONS:

(1) DEFINITION OF MILITARY EXPENDITURES; (2) VALUATION OF RESOURCES IN MILITARY SECTOR; (3) DEFLATING CURRENT

PRICE DATA (OR PRICE INDEXING); (4) INTERNATIONAL VALUE COMPARISONS. MARTIN CONCLUDED THAT AFTER SUBJECT HAD BEEN DISCUSSED IN CCD THIS SESSION WE WOULD THEN CONSIDER WHAT FURTHER ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN AT CCD OR UNGA.

5. ROSCHIN ASKED HOW U.S.M. VIEWED ITS INITIATIVE IN RELATION TO SOVIET PROPOSAL ON ROB AT UNGA, SPECIFICALLY IN RELATION TO SPECIAL AD HOC COMMITTEE OF UNGA THAT IS BASED ON SOVIET ROB PROPOSAL. MARTIN EXPLAINED THAT U.S. INITIATIVE STEMMED FROM EXPERTS' REPORT. WE THOUGHT MOST CONSTRUCTIVE FIRST STEP ON MEL WOULD BE TO STUDY CONCEPTUAL PROBLEMS THAT MUST BE SOLVED BEFORE JUDGMENTS CAN BE MADE ABOUT LARGER MEL ISSUES. HE ADDED THAT HE HOPED SOVIETS WOULD DECIDE U.S. PROPOSAL WAS CONSISTENT WITH THEIR INTEREST IN MEL AND AGREE TO WORK TOGETHER ON U.S. PROJECT. HE NOTED SOVIET LEADERS, WITHOUT REFERENCE TO ROB, HAD AGAIN RECENTLY EXPRESSED INTEREST IN REDUCING MILITARY EXPENDITURES.

6. ROSHCHIN REPLIED THAT IF U.S. INITIATIVE WAS "OUTSIDE" SOVIET PROPOSAL CURRENTLY BEFORE UNGA--AS SEEMED TO BE THE CASE--IT WOULD NOT BE EASY FOR USSR TO CONSIDER U.S. INITIATIVE. WITH SO LITTLE TIME REMAINING HE WAS NOT SURE MOSCOW COULD SEND INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE END OF CCD SESSION. HE WOULD, HOWEVER, REPORT AND REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS. ABRAMS

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